

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY AF/S:JDAVIDOW:DH
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S/S-O- LRFLEISCHER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 066530

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: X-GDS-1

TAGS: RH, PDEV, UK

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: SITHOLE LETTER TO OWEN

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER DELIVERED TO BRITISH OFFICIAL
IN SALISBURY ON MARCH 14, AND GIVEN TO DEPT BY UK EMBASSY

BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR DR. OWEN:

- -

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE TO ME THROUGH MR. WILSON AT
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THE MIRIMBA HOUSE, SALISBURY, WHICH WAS DELIVERED TO ME
VERBALLY ON THE 12 MARCH, 1978.

IN THE LIGHT OF THE RHODESIAN CONSTITUTIONAL AGREEMENT
SIGNED ON THE 3 MARCH, 1978, I REGRET THAT I NO LONGER SEE
ANY REASON FOR ANOTHER CONFERENCE TO RESOLVE THE RHODESIAN
PROBLEM WHICH HAS NOW BEEN RESOLVED BY THE AGREEMENT.

I TAKE THE SERIOUS VIEW THAT IN PRINCIPLE THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM IS NOW RESOLVED. WHAT NOW REMAINS TO BE DONE IS TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT WHICH TOOK US THREE MONTHS TO REALIZE. IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT BOTH UNITED KINGDOM AND UNITED STATES SHOULD TAKE NOTE OF THE FACT

THAT, THAT AGREEMENT IS IRREVERSIBLE AND THAT ANYONE WHO WANTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NEW SET-UP MUST DO SO ON THE TERMS OF THAT AGREEMENT WHICH HAS RECEIVED POPULAR ACCLAMATION THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE COUNTRY. OUR IMMEDIATE PREOCCUPATION IS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THAT AGREEMENT AND NOT THE SOLUTION TO THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM. WE HAVE LONG PASSED THAT.

I SHOULD ALSO POINT OUT TO YOU DR. OWEN THAT THE AGREEMENT HAS NOT ONLY THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION BUT ALSO THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE GUERRILLAS FIGHTING INSIDE THE COUNTRY. VARIOUS SMALL DELEGATIONS HAVE SOUGHT AUDIENCE WITH ME AND THEY HAVE CONGRATULATED ME UPON THE AGREEMENT AND HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR DEEP CONCERN ABOUT THEIR OWN FUTURE IN THE NEW SET-UP FOR WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN FIGHTING FOR SO HARD FOR SO MANY YEARS. MY MAIN PRE-OCCUPATION THEREFORE IS HOW THESE YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN ARE TO BE BROUGHT INTO THE NEW SET-UP AS ENVISAGED IN THE AGREEMENT WHICH I CONSIDER CONFIDENTIAL

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CONCLUDED AND IRREVERSIBLE.

YOURS SINCERELY, REV. NDABANINGI SITHOLE. END TEXT. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, FORM OF GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
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Film Number: D780116-0692
Format: TEL
From: STATE
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780364/aaaaccgt.tel
Line Count: 97
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Review Event:
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Subject: RHODESIA: SITHOLE LETTER TO OWEN FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER DELIVERED TO BRITISH OFFICIAL IN SALISBURY ON MARCH 14, AND GIVEN TO DEPT BY UK
TAGS: PDEV, RH, UK, (SITHOLE), (OWEN, DAVID)
To: LUSAKA PRETORIA MULTIPLE
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